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**Interaction Paper #3:**

This week's reading on *Holistic Mission* by C. René Padilla looks to define holistic mission through historical documents, Scripture and significant missiological movements. He also challenges and calls the local church and parachurch ministries to various commitments to pursue holistic mission. Padilla first takes on a historical approach in developing a definition of holistic mission. He looks at important points in history where there were various statements and documents that advanced the theology of missions. He then argues for a biblical basis for holistic mission by examining creation theology, the unity of body, soul and spirit, and the life, ministry, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Padilla also explores significant historical anecdotes of missiological movements in history where different missionaries pursued holistic mission. Finally, Padilla challenges the local churches and parachurch ministries to pursue holistic missions by suggesting a framework that best represents the key components of holistic mission.

I agree with Padilla's view on the need for the church and parachurch ministries to pursue holistic mission today. In a post-modern and post-Christendom society, there is now a great divide in the understanding of basic Christian concepts. Christianity has lost its influence on society and has especially fell behind in the process of evangelism. In today's society it is evermore imperative to redefine missions and pursue a holistic mission model. In a Christendom society, basic concepts of Christianity were shared and understood. However, in a post-Christendom society those basic concepts are no longer shared and instead of trying to evangelize with Christian terms, it is necessary for missions to be seen and felt. The church needs to pursue holistic missions and address the whole body, soul and spirit.

One area I would like to further explore is the concept of renewal and the eschatological purpose to make all things new. This concept is familiar but I always generally thought of salvation as a way to have endless life with Jesus and God's people in heaven. However, there is deeper purpose and finality of God's mission which is the renewal of all things.